

Serial No.: TO BE ASSIGNED

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KUEHN, ET AL.

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Serial No.: TO BE ASSIGNED

Group Art Unit: TO BE ASSIGNED

Filed: FEBRUARY 23, 2004

Docket No.: 01610.0113-US-D2

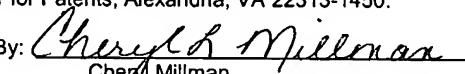
Title: MITRAL AND TRICUSPID VALVE REPAIR

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10:

'Express Mail' mailing number: EL 984583869 US

Date of Deposit: February 23, 2004

The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper or fee, as described herein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: 
Cheryl Millman

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant(s) respectfully submit(s) the items of information on the enclosed Form 1449 for the attention of the Examiner in the above-identified application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

A copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2) and/or a copy of each document is not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and

Trademark Office in a parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/543,076 filed on April 5, 2000, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §.1.98(d).

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103. In addition, Applicant(s) do(es) not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended, and reserve the right to establish otherwise under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or others.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. According to M.P.E.P. §609, Applicant(s) request(s) that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments that may be deemed necessary to Deposit Account Number 50-1038.

Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC
Customer No. 22865

Date: February 23, 2004

By: Hallie A. Finucane
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PTO Form 1449			Docket Number 01610.0113-US-D2	Serial Number TO BE ASSIGNED
			Applicant(s) Kuehn, et al.	
			Filing Date FEBRUARY 23, 2004	Group Art Unit TO BE ASSIGNED

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
		3,671,979	06/27/72	Mouloupoulos			
		3,874,388	04/01/75	King, et al.			
		5,042,707	08/27/91	Taheri			
		5,181,919	01/26/93	Bergman, et al.			
		5,209,756	05/11/93	Seedhom, et al.			
		5,403,326	04/04/95	Harrison, et al.			
		5,417,700	05/03/98	Egan			
		5,423,858	06/13/95	Bolanos, et al.			
		5,425,738	06/20/95	Gustafson, et al.			
		5,478,353	12/26/95	Yoon			
		5,496,310	03/05/96	Exconde, et al.			
		5,549,122	08/27/96	Detweilwer			
		5,609,598	03/11/97	Laufer, et al.			
		5,702,048	12/30/97	Eberlin			
		5,713,910	02/03/98	Gordon, et al.			
		5,797,927	08/25/98	Yoon			
		5,810,847	09/22/98	Laufer, et al.			
		5,855,614	01/05/99	Stevens, et al.			
		5,891,162	04/06/99	Sugarbaker, et al.			
		5,947,363	09/07/99	Boldue, et al.			
		5,954,731	09/21/99	Yoon			
		5,957,936	09/28/99	Yoon, et al.			
		5,976,164	11/02/99	Bencini, et al.			
		6,017,358	01/25/00	Yoon, et al.			
		6,086,600	07/11/00	Kortenbach			
		6,120,513	09/19/00	Bailey, et al.			
		6,165,183	12/26/00	Kuehn, et al.			
		6,269,819	08/07/01	Oz, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		WO 94/18881	09/01/94	PCT				
		0 684 012	02/16/95	EP				
		2,305,627	04/16/97	GB				
		WO 97/39688	10/30/97	PCT				
		WO 98/07375	02/26/98	PCT				
		WO 98/30153	07/16/98	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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		Applicant(s) Kuehn, et al.	
		Filing Date FEBRUARY 23, 2004	Group Art Unit TO BE ASSIGNED
		Reul, Ross M. and Cohn, Lawrence H., "Mitral Valve Reconstruction for Mitral Insufficiency", <u>Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases</u> , Vol. XXXIX, No. 6 (May/June), 1997, pp. 567-599.	
		Daig Brochure: "Swartz™ Introducers", <u>Daig Corporation</u> , Minnetonka, MN, 1995.	
		Daig Brochure: "Daig Fast-Cath™ Introducers", <u>Daig Corporation</u> , Minnetonka, MN, 1994.	
		F. Maisano, et al., "The edge-to-edge technique: A simplified Method to Correct Mitral insufficiency", <u>European Journal of cardio-thoracic Surgery</u> , 13:240-246 (1998).	

Examiner:

Date Considered: